

Message Text

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ORIGIN PA-03

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-15 FILE-01 SSO-00 ADP-00

PRS-01 NSC-10 NSCE-00 USIE-00 EA-11 /043 R

DRAFTED BY PA/PG:DFBARRETT:DS

7/18/73 EXT. 20259

APPROVED BY PA/PG-DBROWN

S/S- MR. GAMMON

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

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O 181848Z JUL 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 140848

TOSEC 82

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (ROGERS, WILLIAM)

SUBJECT: AFTERNOON NEWS AND COMMENT SUMMARY, JULY 18

1. HIGHLIGHTS. WEDNESDAY WASHSTAR-NEWS FRONTPAGES
"PANEL'S BID FOR NIXON'S TAPES SETS CLASH WITH WHITE HOUSE";
"GOP CUTS STAFF, SALARIES"; "FRENCH BOARD AMERICAN SCHOO-
NER"; "FTC FILES CASE AGAINST OIL FIRMS", MORRIS ARTICLE
REPORTING FTC VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ISSUE COMPLAINT CHARGING
EIGHT MAJOR OIL COMPANIES WITH ANTI-COMPETITIVE PRACTICES
WHICH HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO NATION'S GASOLINE SHORTAGE.
NOON STAR HAS NO ROGERS COVERAGE. WEDNESDAY BALTOSUN
HAS ROGERS STORY ON PAGE 5.

2. ROGERS. WEDNESDAY BALTOSUN HAS PEPPER ARTICLE, PAGE 5,
TOKYO, HEADED "JAPAN, US END TALKS, VOW TO HALT BICKERING".
PEPPER REPORTING ROGERS AND OHIRA SA THEIR TWO COUNTRIES
WERE NO LONGER QUARRELING WITH EACH OTHER OVER ANNOYING
BILATERAL PROBLEMS, BUT HAD ENTERED NEW ERA COOPERATION ON
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VAST ARRAY GLOBAL MATTERS. OHIRA NOTED US AND JAPAN

TOGETHER PRODUCE ABOUT 40 PER CENT WORLD'S TOTAL GOODS AND SERVICES. ROGERS SAID THIS FACT ALONE MEANS US JAPANESE DISCUSSIONS ON TRADE AND MONETARY AFFAIRS, ENERGY, AID TO LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL MATTERS WOULD AFFECT ENTIRE GLOBE. SPEAKING AT NATIONALLY

TELEVISED PRESS CONFERENCE, BOTH MEN WELCOMED ABSENCE ROUGH-AND-TUMBLE NEGOTIATING, PARTICULARLY ON BILATERAL TRADE ISSUES. JAPANESE AND AMERICAN MINISTERS AGREED HOLD FURTHER WORKING-LEVEL TALKS ON ENERGY AND PROJECTED AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY AND DEMAND ON BOTH SIDES PACIFIC. US OFFICIALS SAID THEY WERE PLEASED ON BOTH COUNTS, NOTING THESE ISSUES WERE POTENTIAL TROUBLE-SPOTS. ON OIL RESOURCES, US OFFICIALS SAID BOTH US AND JAPAN AGREED ANY GROUPING OF OIL CONSUMER COUNTRIES SHOULD WORK WITH PRODUCING COUNTRIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND AVOID ANY TRADE CONFRONTATION. ROGERS EXPRESSED REGRET OVER RECENT US DECISION TO RESTRICT EXPORTS SOYBEANS AND OTHER KEY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. BUT HE SAID BUMPER CROP THIS FALL SHOULD ENABLE JAPAN TO GET ALL IT NEEDS. US OFFICIALS SAID WORKING LEVEL TALKS WOULD HELP IMPROVE AGRICULTURAL FORECASTING, HEADING OFF FURTHER TEMPORARY CRISES SUCH AS OCCURRED THIS SUMMER. IN JOINT COMMUNIQUE BOTH GOVERNMENTS TOOK NOTE OF SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN JAPANESE TRADE SURPLUS WITH US. IN WHAT APPEARED IMPORTANT JAPANESE CONCESSION, COMMUNIQUE SAID TEMPORARY FACTORS SUCH AS INFLATED PRICES FOR FARM COMMODITIES HAD HELPED BRING ABOUT THIS CHANGE.

3. WATERGATE. MARDIAN TESTIMONY. WASHSTAR-NEWS HAS FRED BARNES ARTICLE REPORTING FORMER ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MARDIAN PLANS TELL SENATE WATERGATE COMMITTEE THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE PRESIDENT NOT INVOLVED IN WATERGATE. TESTIMONY WILL TO SOME EXTENT COUNTER THAT OF DEAN. MARDIAN, HOWEVER, UNLIKE DEAN HAD NO PERSONAL MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT AFTER BREAK-IN. MARDIAN'S ATTORNEY SAID MARDIAN WILL DENY ANY INVOLVEMENT IN COVER-UP, DIRECTLY DISPUTING DEAN'S TESTIMONY.

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3A. WHITE HOUSE TAPES. WASHSTAR-NEWS, NYT NEWS SERVICE REPORTS FCC HAS ASKED AT&T TO INVESTIGATE REPORT VIOLATION OF COMPANY TARIFFS BY WHITE HOUSE IN CONNECTION WITH RECORDING DEVICES PLACED ON TELEPHONES USED BY PRESIDENT. TARIFF PROVIDES ANY RECORDING EQUIPMENT USED BY TELEPHONE CUSTOMERS MUST INCLUDE DEVICE THAT EMITS AUDIBLE TONE AT 15-SECOND INTERVALS WHEN RECORDER OPERATING.

FCC HAS ASKED AT&T TO ESTABLISH WHETHER WHITE HOUSE HAD VIOLATED ITS TARIFF BY USING EQUIPMENT WITHOUT SUCH A TONE. PENALTY FOR VIOLATION IS REMOVAL OF TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT LEASED TO OFFENDING CUSTOMER. C&P SPOKESMAN SAID EARLIER HE WAS NOT SURE WHAT ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN BUT IT WAS CERTAIN SERVICE WOULD NOT BE DISCONNECTED.

4. PRESIDENT. WASHSTAR-NEWS, HORNER REPORTS DOCTORS DESCRIBE NIXON AS FEELING WELL AND CONDUCTING WHITE HOUSE BUSINESS AT NEAR-NORMAL PACE WITHOUT DIFFICULTY. PRESIDENT PLANS TO LEAVE HOSPITAL FOR CAMP DAVID FRIDAY. ZIEGLER SAID HE UNDERSTANDS PRESIDENT WILL HOST SHAH OF IRAN AT USUAL STATE DINNER.

5. FRENCH A-TEST. WASHSTAR-NEWS, WELLINGTON, AP REPORTS FRENCH WARSHIP BELIEVED TOWING AMERICAN SCHOONER OUT OF DANGER ZONE AROUND FRANCE'S NUCLEAR TEST AREA TODAY. SKIPPER OF SCHOONER FRI RADIOED NEW ZEALAND FRIGATE OTAGO THAT FRENCH SAILORS BOARDED HIS BOAT AFTER HE REJECTED WRITTEN REQUEST LEAVE AREA AROUND MURUROA ATOLL.

6. COMMENT. PERON. WASHSTAR-NEWS SAYS PERON REMAINS NEAREST THING
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE140848
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DFBARRETT:DS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730725/aaaaasdz.tel
Line Count: 135
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 15 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Jan-2002 by phillir0>; APPROVED <14 MAR 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AFTERNOON NEWS AND COMMENT SUMMARY, JULY 18
TAGS: OVIP, (ROGERS, WILLIAM)
To: SEOUL
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005